

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 OFA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 /060 W

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R 062230Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8283

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 2238

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS; EEWT; ES; PL; GE

SUBJECT: FISHERIES: EAST BLOCK USE OF SALVADORAN PORTS

REF: STATE 083067 NOTAL

SAN SALVADOR 1471 NOTAL

SUMMARY: POLISH FISHING VESSELS HERE BEEN USING THE SALVADORAN
PORT OF ACAJUTLA FOR ABOUT ONE YEAR. SOVIET FREIGHTERS HAVE ALSO
CALLED AND EAST GERMAN FISHING VESSELS ARE EXPECTED TO BE

USING THE PORT. CREW EXCHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE AND MORE ARE
PLANNED. EL SALVADOR IS OPENING ITS PACIFIC PORT LIMITED EAST BLOC
USE, A DEVELOPMENT SEEN PRIMARILY AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF SALVADORAN
WILLINGNESS TO INCREASE COMMERCIAL CONTACTS WITH COMMUNIST
COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY

1. SUBSEQUENT TO NMFS INQUIRY TRANSMITTED STATE REFTEL EMBASSY

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HAS DEVELOPED FURTHER INFO ON EAST BLOC USE OF SALVADORAN OCEAN

PORTS. THE SALVADORAN PORT AUTHORITY CEPA HAS DOCUMENTED THE FOLLOWING VISITS.

2. ON JANUARY 27, 1975 A CHARTER KLM 707 BROUGHT 220 POLISH FISHING CREW MEMBERS TO SAN SALVADOR. THEY WERE BUSSED TO ACAJUTLA AND EXCHANGED FOR A LIKE NUMBER OF CREWMEN FROM THE POLISH FISHING VESSELS MORS (ALSO KNOWN AS MOORS), KALMAR AND LIBRA. TWO POLISH OFFICIALS ACCOMPANIED THESE CREWS, STANISLAW PIOTR OF DALMER OR DALMOR DEEP SEA FISHING COMPANY OF GYDNIA POLAND AND MATEJKA BEREK, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE POLISH STEVEDORES AND DOCKWORKERS UNION.

3. ON JANUARY 30 AND 31, 1975 THE KALMAR AND MORS AGAIN VISITED ACAJUTLA.

4. ON JUNE 11, 1975 ANOTHER EXCHANGE IS SCHEDULED. 188 CREWMEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE BY CHARTERED KLM AIRCRAFT JUNE 11 ACCOMPANIED BY STANISLAW PIOTR. THESE CREWMEMBERS ARE TO BE EXCHANGED WITH A LIKE NUMBER FROM THE POLISH VESSELS TAURUS AND DEMEBOLA.

5. THE SALVADORAN PORT AUTHORITY CEPA IS ALSO NEGOTIATING WITH THE EAST GERMAN GOVERNMENT A REQUEST FROM THE GDR FOR SIMILAR USE OF SALVADORAN FACILITIES. GENERAL AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED AND TWO VESSELS, NOT YET NAMED, OF THE FIRM FISCHKAMBINAT OF ROSTOCK EAST GERMANY ARE EXPECTED TO EXCHANGE CREWS VIA ACAJUTLA DURING SEPTEMBER, 1975.

6. THREE SOVIET FREIGHTERS, NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED ALSO HAVE VISITED ACAJUTLA RECENTLY ACCORDING TO CEPA, TWO IN 1974 AND ONE IN 1975. AT LEAST ONE OF THE VESSELS CALLING IN MID-1974 REPORTEDLY LOADED SALVADORAN SUGAR DESPITE AN EXISTING SHORTAGE IN COUNTRY.

7. IN ADDITION TO THE VESSELS NAMED ABOVE, TWO OTHER POLISH SHIPS, THE ARCTIC SCAN AND WALLESE USED ACAJUTLA DURING LATE 1974. ALL OF THE ABOVE POLISH AND EAST GERMAN ACTIVITIES ARE BEING COORDINATED THROUGH THE SALVADORAN FIRM TRANSPORTES MARITIMOS ESPECIALIZADOS, ROY BEERS, MANAGER.

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8. THE GOES HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN FACILITATING THE ABOVE EXCHANGES: THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS ARRANGED VISAS THROUGH THE EL SALVADOR EMBASSY IN PARIS, THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR AUTHORIZED THE ENTRY OF CREWMEMBERS, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION ORDERED INSPECTORS TO GIVE FULL COOPERATION AND THE TOURISM INSTITUTE HAS MADE AVAILABLE TOURISM FACILITIES. IN ADDITION TO CREW EXCHANGES POLISH VESSELS HAVE BEEN CALLING AT ACAJUTLA WITH SOME REGULARITY FOR REST AND RECREATION AND CREWMEMBERS HAVE BEEN

ALLOWED CONSIDERABLE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT. IN FACT, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CEPA MENTIONED THAT ABOUT 10 FISHERPERSONS FROM A POLISH VESSEL "DISAPPEARED" WHILE AT LIBERTY IN ACAJUTLA FOR TWO DAYS DURING THE WEEK OF JUNE 2.

9. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY CAN ONLY SPECULATE AS TO BENEFITS EL SALVADOR MIGHT BE DERIVING FROM MAKING SALVADORAN FACILITIES AVAILABLE. THE VESSELS PAY FULL COMMERCIAL FEES FOR PORT USAGE AND NEEDED SUPPLIES AND SERVICES, BUT THIS IS PROBABLY NOT A LARGE AMOUNT. THERE MAY BE QUIDS PRO QUO IN TRADE, INTERNATIONAL AGENCY SUPPORT (THE AQUINO-FAO CANDIDACY) OR OTHER FORMS BUT WE HAVE NO INDICATIONS WHAT THOSE MIGHT BE. ACAJUTLA APPARENTLY IS THE ONLY C OM# PACIFIC COAST PORT BEING MADE READILY

AVAILABLE TO EAST BLOC FISHING VESSELS. GIVEN BLOC PRESENCE IN COSTA RICA IT IS CURIOUS THAT PUNTARENAS IS REPORTEDLY NOT BEING USED. ON THE SURFACE THE EMBASSY READS LITTLE INTO THESE DEVELOPMENTS EXCEPT ADDED EVIDENCE OF SALVADORAN WILLINGNESS TO DEAL MORE OPENLY WITH EAST BLOC COUNTRIES.
CAMPBELL

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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